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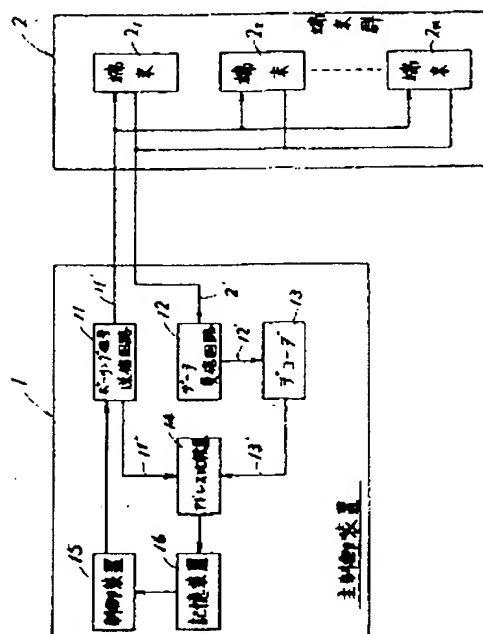
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TITLE : COMMUNICATION CONTROLLER



ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To improve the communication efficiency, and to cope easily with increase/decrease of a terminal device by grasping the number of terminals connected to a main controller at present at all times, and deciding the number of terminals to be polled succeedingly based on the number.

CONSTITUTION: A polling signal transmission circuit 11 of the main controller 1 executes polling to the number (n+1) more than the connection terminal number (n) by one at each prescribed period. Terminals $2_1 \sim 2_n$ transmits a connection confirming signal $2'$ to the polling. The signal $2'$ is decoded by a decoder 13. An address comparator 14 of the controller 1 compares a transmission address $11'$ from the circuit 11 with decoded information $13'$ from a decoder 13 so as to check whether or not a terminal being an objective of polling is connected. When the polling address is (n+1) and the output $13'$ represents connecting state, the contents of a storage device 16 are revised because the connecting terminals are increased. Further, when the signal $2'$ is not received to the polling, it is regarded that the terminal at the execution of polling is removed and the contents of the storage device 16 are revised.

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